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## Azimuthal anisotropy of charged particles with transverse momentum up to 100 GeV/c in PbPb collisions at root S-NN=5.02 TeV

The CMS collaboration

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The CMS Collaboration , Sirunyan , A M , Eerola , P , Pekkanen , J , Voutilainen , M , Härkönen , J , Järvinen , T , Karimäki , V , Kinnunen , R , Lampén , T , Lassila-Perini , K , Lehti , S , Lindén , T , Luukka , P , Tuominiemi , J , Tuovinen , E , Wendland , L , Talvitie , J & Tuuva , T 2018 , ' Azimuthal anisotropy of charged particles with transverse momentum up to 100 GeV/c in PbPb collisions at root S-NN=5.02 TeV ' , Physics Letters B , vol. 776 , pp. 195-216 . <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.physletb.2017.11.041>

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# Azimuthal anisotropy of charged particles with transverse momentum up to 100 GeV/c in PbPb collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02$ TeV

The CMS Collaboration<sup>\*</sup>

CERN, Switzerland

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## ABSTRACT

The Fourier coefficients  $v_2$  and  $v_3$  characterizing the anisotropy of the azimuthal distribution of charged particles produced in PbPb collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02$  TeV are measured with data collected by the CMS experiment. The measurements cover a broad transverse momentum range,  $1 < p_T < 100$  GeV/c. The analysis focuses on the  $p_T > 10$  GeV/c range, where anisotropic azimuthal distributions should reflect the path-length dependence of parton energy loss in the created medium. Results are presented in several bins of PbPb collision centrality, spanning the 60% most central events. The  $v_2$  coefficient is measured with the scalar product and the multiparticle cumulant methods, which have different sensitivities to initial-state fluctuations. The values from both methods remain positive up to  $p_T \sim 60$ –80 GeV/c, in all examined centrality classes. The  $v_3$  coefficient, only measured with the scalar product method, tends to zero for  $p_T \gtrsim 20$  GeV/c. Comparisons between theoretical calculations and data provide new constraints on the path-length dependence of parton energy loss in heavy ion collisions and highlight the importance of the initial-state fluctuations.

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## 1. Introduction

Several observations made at RHIC in AuAu collisions at center-of-mass energy per nucleon pair  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$  GeV [1–4] and at the LHC in PbPb collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.76$  and 5.02 TeV [5–10] establish that high-energy partons lose a significant fraction of their energy while traversing the hot and dense medium created in these collisions. Measurements of the nuclear modification factor ( $R_{AA}$ ), a ratio that quantifies the modification of particle spectra between pp and heavy ion collisions, show a large suppression of high transverse-momentum ( $p_T$ ) charged hadrons at RHIC [11–16] and at LHC [7–10]. Also, a strong asymmetry is observed in the energies of the two jets in dijet events in PbPb collisions [5,6]. These observations have triggered much progress in the understanding of jet quenching phenomena, but do not provide sufficient information for a detailed understanding of how the parton energy loss depends on the distance traversed by the partons in the medium. The study of anisotropies in the azimuthal angle distributions of high- $p_T$  hadrons can provide revealing information that is complementary to previous measurements. These anisotropies are characterized by the  $v_n$  coefficients of a Fourier expansion in

the distributions of azimuthal angle measured with respect to the event plane, defined by the direction of maximum particle density in the transverse plane [17]. Such studies have been performed at RHIC [18] and at the LHC [19–21] up to  $p_T \approx 10$  and 60 GeV/c, respectively. Most jet quenching models are unable to simultaneously reproduce the  $R_{AA}$  and  $v_2$  measurements [22–24]. Nevertheless, recent attempts to solve this puzzle have shown promise by considering initial-state collision geometry asymmetries and fluctuations [25,26], which are predicted to strongly affect the high- $p_T$   $v_n$  coefficients, but not the  $R_{AA}$  values. In particular, the fluctuations generate odd harmonics [27] and the measurement of the  $v_3$  coefficient up to very high  $p_T$  is expected to clarify the importance of considering initial-state fluctuations in the modeling of parton energy loss [25,26].

In this Letter, the azimuthal anisotropy of charged particles produced in PbPb collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02$  TeV is measured up to  $p_T \approx 100$  GeV/c. The scalar product (SP) method [28,29] is used to determine the  $v_2$  and  $v_3$  coefficients as a function of  $p_T$  and collision centrality in the pseudorapidity range  $|\eta| < 1$ . The unprecedented statistical reach of the  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02$  TeV PbPb sample for high- $p_T$  particles allows for the first precise measurement of the  $v_2$  and  $v_3$  coefficients at high  $p_T$ . Furthermore,  $v_2$  is also measured with the multiparticle cumulant analysis method [30], using 4-, 6- and 8-particle correlations.

<sup>\*</sup> E-mail address: cms-publication-committee-chair@cern.ch.

## 2. The CMS detector

The central feature of the CMS apparatus is a superconducting solenoid of 6 m internal diameter providing a 3.8 T field. Within the solenoid volume there are a silicon pixel and strip tracker detector, a lead tungstate crystal electromagnetic calorimeter (ECAL), and a brass and scintillator hadron calorimeter (HCAL), each composed of a barrel and two endcap sections. Muons are measured in gas-ionization detectors embedded in the steel flux-return yoke outside the solenoid. The silicon tracker measures charged particles within  $|\eta| < 2.5$  and provides a  $p_T$  resolution of about 1.5% for 100 GeV charged particles. Furthermore, the track impact parameter resolution is about 25–90 (45–150)  $\mu\text{m}$  in the transverse (longitudinal) dimension, depending on  $\eta$  and  $p_T$  [31]. Iron and quartz-fiber Cherenkov hadron forward (HF) calorimeters cover the range  $2.9 < |\eta| < 5.2$  on either side of the interaction region. The granularity of the HF towers is  $\Delta\eta \times \Delta\phi = 0.175 \times 0.175$  radians, allowing an accurate reconstruction of the heavy ion event plane. A more detailed description of the CMS detector, together with a definition of the coordinate system used and the relevant kinematic variables, can be found in Ref. [32]. The detailed Monte Carlo simulation of the CMS detector response is based on GEANT4 [33].

## 3. Event and track selections

The analysis of PbPb collisions is based on a data set corresponding to an integrated luminosity of  $404 \mu\text{b}^{-1}$ , collected in 2015. Events were collected with several trigger algorithms, composed of a hardware-based level 1 (L1) trigger, followed by a software-based high-level trigger (HLT). The  $p_T$  region up to 14 GeV/c is covered by a minimum-bias trigger, which requires energy deposits in both HF calorimeters above a predefined threshold of approximately 1 GeV. This minimum-bias trigger was prescaled during data taking. To extend the measurement to higher order coefficients and higher  $p_T$  (e.g., up to 100 GeV/c), a dedicated trigger that selects events containing a high- $p_T$  particle was used. The L1 trigger requirement was based on the transverse energy ( $E_T$ ) of the highest  $E_T$  calorimeter region ( $\Delta\eta \times \Delta\phi = 0.348 \times 0.348$ ) in the barrel region ( $|\eta| < 1.044$ ). In the HLT farm, a fast version of the offline tracking algorithms was employed and the highest  $p_T$  track was required to pass the strict selection criteria described hereafter, resulting in a trigger efficiency of nearly 100%. Different  $E_T$  and  $p_T$  thresholds [10] were used at L1 and HLT, respectively, to enrich the data sample with events that contain high- $p_T$  tracks.

In the offline analysis, an additional selection of hadronic collisions is applied by requiring at least three towers with an energy deposit of more than 3 GeV per tower in each of the HF detectors. The events are required to have a reconstructed primary vertex, formed by two or more tracks and required to have a distance from the nominal interaction point of less than 15 cm along the beam axis and less than 0.15 cm in the transverse plane. The collision centrality in PbPb events, i.e. the degree of overlap of the two colliding nuclei, is determined from the  $E_T$  deposited in both HF calorimeters. Collision centrality bins are given in percentage ranges of the total hadronic cross section, 0–5% corresponding to the 5% of collisions with the largest overlap of the two nuclei [34].

A standard CMS high-purity track selection [31,35] is used to select primary tracks (tracks associated with the primary vertex). Additional requirements are applied to enhance the purity of these primary tracks. The track must be consistent with originating from the primary vertex by less than 3 standard deviations when estimating both the longitudinal and transverse distances of closest approach. The relative uncertainty of the  $p_T$  measurement,  $\sigma(p_T)/p_T$ , must be less than 10%. To ensure high tracking efficiency and reduce the rate of misreconstructed tracks, primary

tracks are restricted to the  $|\eta| < 1$  and  $p_T > 1$  GeV/c region. Furthermore, tracks with  $p_T > 20$  GeV/c are required to match a compatible energy deposit in the calorimeters (ECAL + HCAL). The tracking efficiency and detector acceptance in PbPb collisions are evaluated using simulated HYDJET 1.9 [36] minimum bias and HYDJET-embedded PYTHIA [37] dijet events. The combined geometrical acceptance and efficiency for primary track reconstruction, for  $p_T > 1$  GeV/c and  $|\eta| < 1$ , is 60–75%, depending on centrality. Finally, the rate of misreconstructed tracks reaches its maximum in the most central events, where it approaches 10%.

## 4. Analysis technique

The anisotropies of the particle azimuthal angle distributions are characterized by the  $v_n$  Fourier coefficients, determined by the expansion  $dN/d\phi \sim 1 + 2 \sum_n v_n \cos[n(\phi - \Psi_n)]$ , where  $N$  is the number of particles and  $\Psi_n$  is the  $n$ th harmonic symmetry plane angle. Event-by-event variations in the initial energy density of the collision lead to the measured event plane fluctuations about the (experimentally inaccessible) symmetry plane [38]. The SP method is used to measure azimuthal correlations and extract Fourier coefficients. In this method, the  $v_n$  coefficients can be expressed in terms of  $Q_n$ -vectors,

$$v_n \{\text{SP}\} \equiv \frac{\langle Q_n Q_{nA}^* \rangle}{\sqrt{\frac{\langle Q_{nA} Q_{nB}^* \rangle \langle Q_{nA} Q_{nC}^* \rangle}{\langle Q_{nB} Q_{nC}^* \rangle}}},$$

$$\text{with } Q_n, Q_{nA}, Q_{nB}, Q_{nC} \equiv \sum_{k=1}^M \omega_k e^{in\phi_k}, \quad (1)$$

where  $M$  represents the number of tracks or HF towers with energy above a certain threshold in each event,  $\phi_k$  is the azimuthal angle of the  $k$ th track or HF tower, and  $\omega_k$  is a weighting factor equal to unity for  $Q_n$ ,  $p_T$  for the tracks ( $Q_{nC}$ ), and  $E_T$  for the HF towers ( $Q_{nA}$  and  $Q_{nB}$ ). The angular brackets  $\langle \rangle$  denote averages over all events. The  $Q_n$  vector is based on the particles of interest, i.e., tracks with  $|\eta| < 1$ . The  $Q_{nA}$  and  $Q_{nB}$  vectors are determined from the two HF calorimeters, covering the range  $3 < |\eta| < 5$ , while the  $Q_{nC}$  vector is obtained using tracks with  $|\eta| < 0.75$ . If the particle of interest comes from the positive- $\eta$  side of the tracker, then  $Q_{nA}$  is calculated using the negative- $\eta$  side of HF, and vice versa. The large  $\eta$  gap imposed between  $Q_{nA}$  and  $Q_n$  suppresses few-particle correlations, such as those induced by high- $p_T$  jets and particle decays, which do not depend on the event plane direction  $\Psi_n^{\text{EP}}$ . The real part is taken for all averages of  $Q$ -vector products over the events. Azimuthal asymmetries that arise from the acceptance and other detector-related effects are taken into account using a two-step process, where the  $Q$ -vector is first recentered and subsequently flattened [39]. These corrections and their effects on the results are negligible for the CMS detector. Since the measurements include correlations between low- and high- $p_T$  particles, the recently established event-plane decorrelation effect [40] cannot be neglected. It is expected to reduce the  $v_n$  values in comparison to those determined if the event planes would be established exclusively using high- $p_T$  particles. The model calculations that include fluctuations in the initial state take into account this effect [26].

The multiparticle cumulant method [30,41] is also used to measure  $v_2$  from genuine 4-, 6-, and 8-particle correlations, with the advantage of being less sensitive to few-particle correlations, e.g., jet fragmentation. The cumulants are expressed in terms of the corresponding  $Q_n$  vectors. We first define the 2-, 4-, 6-, and 8-particle correlators as

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle\langle 2 \rangle\rangle &= \left\langle\left\langle e^{in(\phi_1 - \phi_2)} \right\rangle\right\rangle, \\
\langle\langle 4 \rangle\rangle &= \left\langle\left\langle e^{in(\phi_1 + \phi_2 - \phi_3 - \phi_4)} \right\rangle\right\rangle, \\
\langle\langle 6 \rangle\rangle &= \left\langle\left\langle e^{in(\phi_1 + \phi_2 + \phi_3 - \phi_4 - \phi_5 - \phi_6)} \right\rangle\right\rangle, \\
\langle\langle 8 \rangle\rangle &= \left\langle\left\langle e^{in(\phi_1 + \phi_2 + \phi_3 + \phi_4 - \phi_5 - \phi_6 - \phi_7 - \phi_8)} \right\rangle\right\rangle,
\end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

where the double average symbol  $\langle\langle \rangle\rangle$  indicates that the average is taken over all particle combinations and for all events. The unbiased estimators of the reference multiparticle cumulants,  $c_n\{\}$ , are defined as [41–43]

$$\begin{aligned}
c_n\{4\} &= \langle\langle 4 \rangle\rangle - 2 \langle\langle 2 \rangle\rangle^2, \\
c_n\{6\} &= \langle\langle 6 \rangle\rangle - 9 \langle\langle 4 \rangle\rangle \langle\langle 2 \rangle\rangle + 12 \langle\langle 2 \rangle\rangle^3, \\
c_n\{8\} &= \langle\langle 8 \rangle\rangle - 16 \langle\langle 6 \rangle\rangle \langle\langle 2 \rangle\rangle - 18 \langle\langle 4 \rangle\rangle^2 + 144 \langle\langle 4 \rangle\rangle \langle\langle 2 \rangle\rangle^2 \\
&\quad - 144 \langle\langle 2 \rangle\rangle^4.
\end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

In order to perform a measurement differential in  $p_T$  in the multiparticle cumulant framework, one of the particles in Eq. (3) is restricted to belong to a certain  $p_T$  bin. Denoting by  $\langle\langle 2' \rangle\rangle$ , etc., the modified particle correlators, the differential multiparticle cumulants are defined in Ref. [43] and can be derived as described in Ref. [41],

$$\begin{aligned}
d_n\{4\} &= \langle\langle 4' \rangle\rangle - 2 \langle\langle 2' \rangle\rangle \langle\langle 2 \rangle\rangle, \\
d_n\{6\} &= \langle\langle 6' \rangle\rangle - 6 \langle\langle 4' \rangle\rangle \langle\langle 2 \rangle\rangle - 3 \langle\langle 2' \rangle\rangle \langle\langle 4 \rangle\rangle + 12 \langle\langle 2' \rangle\rangle \langle\langle 2 \rangle\rangle^2, \\
d_n\{8\} &= \langle\langle 8' \rangle\rangle - 12 \langle\langle 6' \rangle\rangle \langle\langle 2 \rangle\rangle - 4 \langle\langle 2' \rangle\rangle \langle\langle 6 \rangle\rangle - 18 \langle\langle 4' \rangle\rangle \langle\langle 4 \rangle\rangle \\
&\quad + 72 \langle\langle 4' \rangle\rangle \langle\langle 2 \rangle\rangle^2 + 72 \langle\langle 4 \rangle\rangle \langle\langle 2 \rangle\rangle \langle\langle 2' \rangle\rangle - 144 \langle\langle 2' \rangle\rangle \langle\langle 2 \rangle\rangle^3.
\end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

Finally, with respect to the reference multiparticle cumulants, the differential 4-, 6-, and 8-particle  $v_n(p_T, \eta)$  coefficients are derived as

$$\begin{aligned}
v_n\{4\}(p_T, \eta) &= -d_n\{4\} (-c_n\{4\})^{-3/4}, \\
v_n\{6\}(p_T, \eta) &= d_n\{6\} (c_n\{6\})^{-5/6} 4^{-1/6}, \\
v_n\{8\}(p_T, \eta) &= -d_n\{8\} (-c_n\{8\})^{-7/8} 33^{-1/8}.
\end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

The statistical uncertainties are evaluated with a data-driven method, as previously employed in Ref. [42]. The data set is divided into 10 subsets with roughly equal numbers of events and the standard deviation of the resulting distribution of the cumulant is used to estimate the uncertainties.

## 5. Systematic uncertainties

At low  $p_T$ , the relative systematic uncertainties for  $v_2\{\text{SP}\}$  and  $v_3\{\text{SP}\}$  are found to be similar. At high  $p_T$ , the  $v_3\{\text{SP}\}$  statistical uncertainties are too large to properly disentangle statistical fluctuations from systematic effects. Therefore, the  $v_2$  systematic uncertainties, expressed in terms of relative values in %, are applied to  $v_3$ , with the exception of the uncertainties due to the few-particle correlations, discussed below. The systematic uncertainties due to the vertex position selection and to the  $p_T$  dependence of the tracking efficiency corrections are common to the SP and cumulant analyses. They are found to be less than 1% and independent of  $p_T$  and centrality. The systematic uncertainties due to misreconstructed tracks are derived by changing the track selection criteria. The results are found to depend on  $p_T$  but not centrality, and are also different for the cumulant and SP methods. The track selection uncertainties have been found to gradually increase from  $\sim 2\%$  at

low  $p_T$  to  $\sim 50\%$  for  $p_T > 60$  GeV/c for the SP method, and from  $\sim 2\%$  to  $\sim 2\%$  for the cumulant analysis. The SP results have an additional uncertainty arising from few-particle correlations. This uncertainty is determined by varying the  $\eta$  gap and contributes differently to the  $v_2$  and  $v_3$  measurements. It is found to depend on both  $p_T$  and centrality, and ranges in absolute value from 0 to 0.022 for  $v_2$  and from 0 to 0.030 for  $v_3$ .

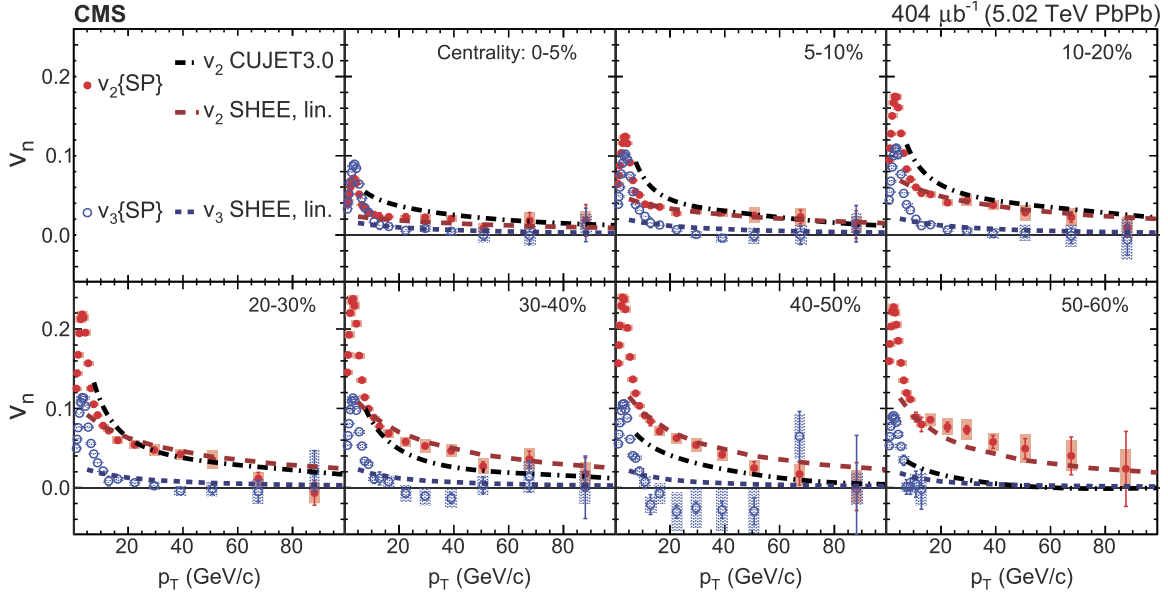
## 6. Results

Fig. 1 shows the  $v_2$  and  $v_3$  results obtained from the SP method as a function of  $p_T$ , up to about 100 GeV/c, in seven collision centrality ranges. From low- to high- $p_T$ , the  $v_2$  and  $v_3$  values first increase with increasing  $p_T$ , up to a maximum near  $p_T \approx 3$  GeV/c, before decreasing again. In most centrality ranges,  $v_2$  remains positive up to  $p_T \sim 60$ –80 GeV/c, becoming consistent with zero at higher  $p_T$ . Positive  $v_3$  values are found up to  $p_T \approx 20$  GeV/c over the 0–40% centrality range. At higher  $p_T$ , the measured  $v_3$  value is consistent with zero within the experimental uncertainties. Given the systematic uncertainties, the measured values are compatible with zero. Some negative  $v_3$  values are seen at high  $p_T$  in the 40–50% centrality range, but such peripheral events are the most contaminated by back-to-back jet correlations. This is confirmed by studying the  $\eta$  gap dependence of the results in both measured and simulated events, where the latter include dijets embedded into HYDJET events with zero input anisotropy. In the centrality range 50–60%,  $v_3$  is only measured up to 20 GeV/c because of lack of events containing higher  $p_T$  particles.

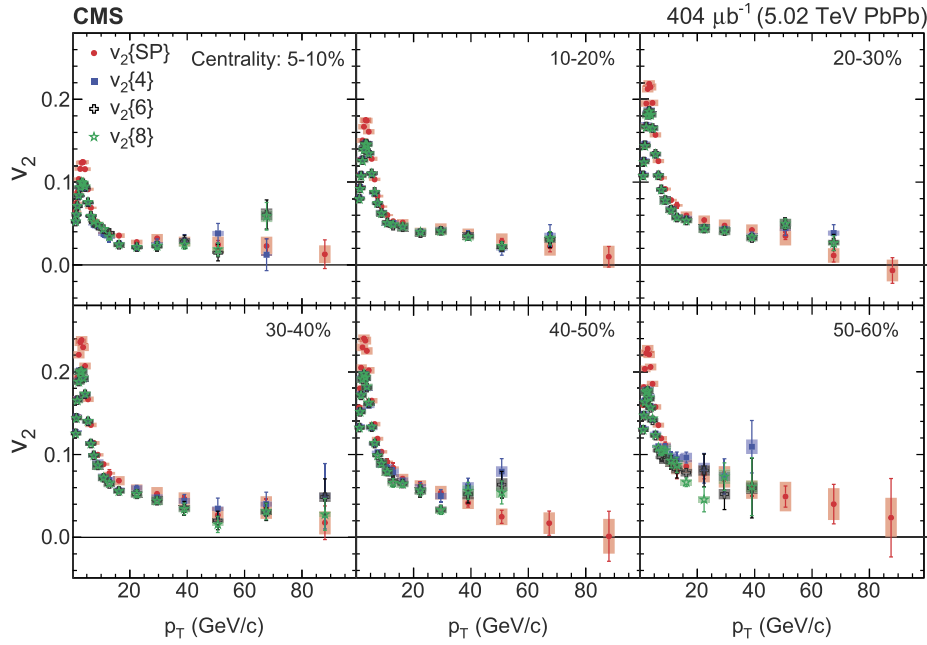
The  $v_2$  and  $v_3$  results are compared to the CUJET3.0 [44] and SHEE [25] models for several centrality bins. A key difference between these two models is that the SHEE framework includes initial-state geometry fluctuations, while CUJET3.0 uses a smooth hydrodynamic background. The CUJET3.0 model uses perturbative quantum chromodynamics (pQCD) calculations to describe the hard parton interactions in the quark-gluon plasma (QGP), complemented by a perfect-fluid hydrodynamic expansion of the medium. The SHEE calculations use viscous hydrodynamics including event-by-event fluctuations in the soft sector [26,45,46], in addition to an energy loss model [26,47,48]. They are performed with a low shear viscosity to entropy density ratio ( $\eta/s$ ), less than or equal to 0.12 (although higher values do not affect the high- $p_T$  predictions), a chemical freezeout temperature of 160 MeV, and a linear path-length dependence of the energy loss inspired by pQCD, similar to that in CUJET3.0. In addition, both model calculations are only valid for  $p_T > 10$  GeV/c.

Over the full centrality range, the CUJET3.0 calculations describe qualitatively the trend observed in the  $v_2$  data for  $p_T > 10$  GeV/c, but fail to quantitatively reproduce the results. For instance, in the centrality range 0–30% and for  $10 < p_T < 40$  GeV/c,  $v_2$  is overestimated by 10–50%, while the model largely underestimates it in the peripheral bins. The SHEE calculations of both  $v_2$  and  $v_3$  are in good agreement with the data for  $p_T > 10$  GeV/c over the full centrality range. The success of the SHEE framework suggests that modeling the initial-state fluctuations may be a crucial ingredient to describe the experimental data related to parton energy loss. Although not shown in the figure, a scenario in the SHEE framework with a quadratic path-length dependence of the energy loss, inspired by gauge-gravity duality [49,50], was also tested and seen to disagree with the data. As just one example, this alternative path-length dependence is found to overestimate the data by 30–40% for  $p_T > 20$  GeV/c in the 20–30% centrality range.

The  $v_2$  values are also obtained from 4-, 6-, and 8-particle cumulant analyses, as shown in Fig. 2, where the SP  $v_2$  results are also included for comparison. For  $p_T < 3$  GeV/c, the results follow the expectation from Bessel-Gaussian or elliptic power  $v_2$  distribu-



**Fig. 1.** The  $v_2$  and  $v_3$  results from the SP method as a function of  $p_T$ , in seven collision centrality ranges from 0–5% to 50–60%. The vertical bars (shaded boxes) represent the statistical (systematic) uncertainties. The curves represent calculations made with the CUJET3.0 [44] and the SHEE models [26] (see text).

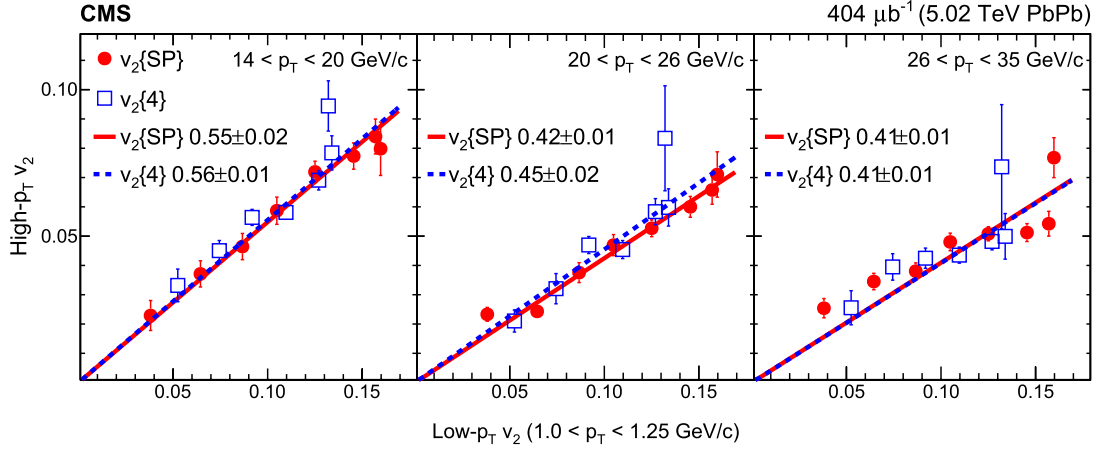


**Fig. 2.** Comparison between the  $v_2$  results from the SP and the 4-, 6-, and 8-particle cumulant methods, as a function of  $p_T$ , in six centrality ranges from 0–5% to 50–60%. The vertical bars (shaded boxes) represent the statistical (systematic) uncertainties.

tions, which predict  $v_2\{\text{SP}\} > v_2\{4\} \approx v_2\{6\} \approx v_2\{8\}$  [51–53]. The observation that the multiparticle cumulant values remain similar up to  $p_T = 100$  GeV/c ( $v_2\{4\} \approx v_2\{6\} \approx v_2\{8\}$ ), further suggests that the azimuthal anisotropy is strongly affected by the initial-state geometry and its event-by-event fluctuations [25,26]. At higher  $p_T$ , the difference between SP and multiparticle cumulant results shows a tendency to decrease. Nevertheless, the uncertainties are too large to draw a firm conclusion. This tendency might be due to  $p_T$  dependence of flow vector fluctuations, which depends on the shear viscosity over entropy density ratio of the medium [26,54]. Therefore, the results presented in Fig. 2 provide important information to constrain the QGP shear viscosity in PbPb collisions.

Fig. 3 shows the correlation between high- $p_T$  and low- $p_T$   $v_2$  values, for investigating the connection between the azimuthal anisotropies induced by hydrodynamic flow and the path-length dependence of parton energy loss [25,26]. The most peripheral  $v_2\{\text{SP}\}$  and  $v_2\{4\}$  data points are the ones with the largest error bars. Linear fits to the centrality dependent  $v_2$  correlation between the low- and high- $p_T$  regions are shown in the figure. Here a zero intercept is assumed. The corresponding  $\chi^2$  over the number of degree of freedom values are found to be near 1–1.5, except for the  $26 < p_T < 35$  GeV/c range, where a positive intercept is indicated for the  $v_2\{\text{SP}\}$  results. The non-zero intercept might reflect a centrality dependent event-plane decorrelation that increases going to higher  $p_T$ . The slope values for  $v_2\{\text{SP}\}$  and  $v_2\{4\}$  are found





**Fig. 3.** Correlation between the high- $p_T$   $v_2$  measured in the 14–20 (left), 20–26 (middle), and 26–35 GeV/c (right)  $p_T$  ranges and the low- $p_T$   $v_2$  measured in the  $1 < p_T < 1.25$  GeV/c range, with the SP (closed circles) and cumulant (open squares) methods. The points represent the centrality bins 0–5, 5–10, 10–15, 15–20, 20–30, 30–40, 40–50, and 50–60% for the SP results. For the cumulant method, the bin 0–5% is not shown. Lines represent a linear fit to the SP results (red) and cumulant results (dashed blue). (For interpretation of the references to color in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)

to be compatible within statistical uncertainties and to decrease when selecting higher  $p_T$  particles. This suggests that the initial-state geometry and its fluctuations are likely to be the common causes of the observed particle azimuthal anisotropies at both low and high  $p_T$ .

## 7. Summary

The azimuthal anisotropy of charged particles produced in PbPb collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02$  TeV has been studied using data collected by the CMS experiment. The  $v_2$  and  $v_3$  coefficients are determined, as a function of collision centrality, over the widest transverse momentum range studied to date (from 1 up to 100 GeV/c). For the first time, the multiparticle cumulant method is used for  $p_T > 20$  GeV/c. Over the measured centrality range, positive  $v_2$  values are found up to  $p_T \sim 60$ –80 GeV/c, while the  $v_3$  values are consistent with zero for  $p_T > 20$  GeV/c. For  $p_T < 3$  GeV/c,  $v_2\{\text{SP}\} > v_2\{4\} \approx v_2\{6\} \approx v_2\{8\}$ , consistent with a collective behavior arising from the hydrodynamic expansion of a quark–gluon plasma. The similarity of  $v_2\{\text{SP}\}$ ,  $v_2\{4\}$ ,  $v_2\{6\}$ , and  $v_2\{8\}$  at high  $p_T$  suggests that  $v_2$  originates from the path-length dependence of parton energy loss associated with an asymmetric initial collision geometry. In addition, a common trend in the centrality dependence of  $v_2$  is observed over the full  $p_T$  range, further supporting a common connection to the initial-state geometry and its fluctuations. A model calculation (SHEE) incorporating initial-state fluctuations with a linear path-length dependence of parton energy loss is found to be in good agreement with the data, over the wide  $p_T$  and centrality ranges probed in this analysis.

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## The CMS Collaboration

A.M. Sirunyan, A. Tumasyan

*Yerevan Physics Institute, Yerevan, Armenia*

W. Adam, E. Asilar, T. Bergauer, J. Brandstetter, E. Brondolin, M. Dragicevic, J. Erö, M. Flechl, M. Friedl, R. Frühwirth<sup>1</sup>, V.M. Ghete, C. Hartl, N. Hörmann, J. Hrubec, M. Jeitler<sup>1</sup>, A. König, I. Krätschmer, D. Liko, T. Matsushita, I. Mikulec, D. Rabady, N. Rad, B. Rahbaran, H. Rohringer, J. Schieck<sup>1</sup>, J. Strauss, W. Waltenberger, C.-E. Wulz<sup>1</sup>

*Institut für Hochenergiephysik, Wien, Austria*

O. Dvornikov, V. Makarenko, V. Mossolov, J. Suarez Gonzalez, V. Zykunov

*Institute for Nuclear Problems, Minsk, Belarus*

N. Shumeiko

*National Centre for Particle and High Energy Physics, Minsk, Belarus*

S. Alderweireldt, E.A. De Wolf, X. Janssen, J. Lauwers, M. Van De Klundert, H. Van Haevermaet, P. Van Mechelen, N. Van Remortel, A. Van Spilbeeck

*Universiteit Antwerpen, Antwerpen, Belgium*

S. Abu Zeid, F. Blekman, J. D'Hondt, N. Daci, I. De Bruyn, K. Deroover, S. Lowette, S. Moortgat, L. Moreels, A. Olbrechts, Q. Python, K. Skovpen, S. Tavernier, W. Van Doninck, P. Van Mulders, I. Van Parijs

*Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Brussel, Belgium*

H. Brun, B. Clerbaux, G. De Lentdecker, H. Delannoy, G. Fasanella, L. Favart, R. Goldouzian, A. Grebenyuk, G. Karapostoli, T. Lenzi, A. Léonard, J. Luetic, T. Maerschalk, A. Marinov, A. Randle-conde, T. Seva, C. Vander Velde, P. Vanlaer, D. Vannerom, R. Yonamine, F. Zenoni, F. Zhang<sup>2</sup>

*Université Libre de Bruxelles, Bruxelles, Belgium*

A. Cimmino, T. Cornelis, D. Dobur, A. Fagot, M. Gul, I. Khvastunov, D. Poyraz, S. Salva, R. Schöffbeck, M. Tytgat, W. Van Driessche, E. Yazgan, N. Zaganidis

*Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium*

H. Bakhshiansohi, C. Beluffi<sup>3</sup>, O. Bondu, S. Brochet, G. Bruno, A. Caudron, S. De Visscher, C. Delaere, M. Delcourt, B. Francois, A. Giammanco, A. Jafari, M. Komm, G. Krintiras, V. Lemaitre, A. Magitteri, A. Mertens, M. Musich, K. Piotrkowski, L. Quertenmont, M. Selvaggi, M. Vidal Marono, S. Wertz

*Université Catholique de Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium*

N. Beliy

*Université de Mons, Mons, Belgium*



W.L. Aldá Júnior, F.L. Alves, G.A. Alves, L. Brito, C. Hensel, A. Moraes, M.E. Pol, P. Rebello Teles

*Centro Brasileiro de Pesquisas Físicas, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil*

E. Belchior Batista Das Chagas, W. Carvalho, J. Chinellato<sup>4</sup>, A. Custódio, E.M. Da Costa, G.G. Da Silveira<sup>5</sup>, D. De Jesus Damiao, C. De Oliveira Martins, S. Fonseca De Souza, L.M. Huertas Guativa, H. Malbouisson, D. Matos Figueiredo, C. Mora Herrera, L. Mundim, H. Nogima, W.L. Prado Da Silva, A. Santoro, A. Sznajder, E.J. Tonelli Manganote<sup>4</sup>, F. Torres Da Silva De Araujo, A. Vilela Pereira

*Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil*

S. Ahuja<sup>a</sup>, C.A. Bernardes<sup>a</sup>, S. Dogra<sup>a</sup>, T.R. Fernandez Perez Tomei<sup>a</sup>, E.M. Gregores<sup>b</sup>, P.G. Mercadante<sup>b</sup>, C.S. Moon<sup>a</sup>, S.F. Novaes<sup>a</sup>, Sandra S. Padula<sup>a</sup>, D. Romero Abad<sup>b</sup>, J.C. Ruiz Vargas<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> *Universidade Estadual Paulista, São Paulo, Brazil*

<sup>b</sup> *Universidade Federal do ABC, São Paulo, Brazil*

A. Aleksandrov, R. Hadjiiska, P. Iaydjiev, M. Rodozov, S. Stoykova, G. Sultanov, M. Vutova

*Institute for Nuclear Research and Nuclear Energy, Sofia, Bulgaria*

A. Dimitrov, I. Glushkov, L. Litov, B. Pavlov, P. Petkov

*University of Sofia, Sofia, Bulgaria*

W. Fang<sup>6</sup>

*Beihang University, Beijing, China*

M. Ahmad, J.G. Bian, G.M. Chen, H.S. Chen, M. Chen, Y. Chen<sup>7</sup>, T. Cheng, C.H. Jiang, D. Leggat, Z. Liu, F. Romeo, M. Ruan, S.M. Shaheen, A. Spiezia, J. Tao, C. Wang, Z. Wang, H. Zhang, J. Zhao

*Institute of High Energy Physics, Beijing, China*

Y. Ban, G. Chen, Q. Li, S. Liu, Y. Mao, S.J. Qian, D. Wang, Z. Xu

*State Key Laboratory of Nuclear Physics and Technology, Peking University, Beijing, China*

C. Avila, A. Cabrera, L.F. Chaparro Sierra, C. Florez, J.P. Gomez, C.F. González Hernández, J.D. Ruiz Alvarez, J.C. Sanabria

*Universidad de Los Andes, Bogota, Colombia*

N. Godinovic, D. Lelas, I. Puljak, P.M. Ribeiro Cipriano, T. Sculac

*University of Split, Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and Naval Architecture, Split, Croatia*

Z. Antunovic, M. Kovac

*University of Split, Faculty of Science, Split, Croatia*

V. Brigljevic, D. Ferencek, K. Kadija, B. Mesic, T. Susa

*Institute Rudjer Boskovic, Zagreb, Croatia*

M.W. Ather, A. Attikis, G. Mavromanolakis, J. Mousa, C. Nicolaou, F. Ptochos, P.A. Razis, H. Rykaczewski

*University of Cyprus, Nicosia, Cyprus*

M. Finger<sup>8</sup>, M. Finger Jr.<sup>8</sup>

*Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic*

E. Carrera Jarrin

*Universidad San Francisco de Quito, Quito, Ecuador*

A. Ellithi Kamel<sup>9</sup>, M.A. Mahmoud<sup>10,11</sup>, A. Radi<sup>11,12</sup>

*Academy of Scientific Research and Technology of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Egyptian Network of High Energy Physics, Cairo, Egypt*

M. Kadastik, L. Perrini, M. Raidal, A. Tiko, C. Veelken

*National Institute of Chemical Physics and Biophysics, Tallinn, Estonia*

P. Eerola, J. Pekkanen, M. Voutilainen

*Department of Physics, University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland*

J. Härkönen, T. Järvinen, V. Karimäki, R. Kinnunen, T. Lampén, K. Lassila-Perini, S. Lehti, T. Lindén, P. Luukka, J. Tuominiemi, E. Tuovinen, L. Wendland

*Helsinki Institute of Physics, Helsinki, Finland*

J. Talvitie, T. Tuuva

*Lappeenranta University of Technology, Lappeenranta, Finland*

M. Besancon, F. Couderc, M. Dejardin, D. Denegri, B. Fabbro, J.L. Faure, C. Favaro, F. Ferri, S. Ganjour, S. Ghosh, A. Givernaud, P. Gras, G. Hamel de Monchenault, P. Jarry, I. Kucher, E. Locci, M. Machet, J. Malcles, J. Rander, A. Rosowsky, M. Titov

*IRFU, CEA, Université Paris-Saclay, Gif-sur-Yvette, France*

A. Abdulsalam, I. Antropov, S. Baffioni, F. Beaudette, P. Busson, L. Cadamuro, E. Chapon, C. Charlot, O. Davignon, R. Granier de Cassagnac, M. Jo, S. Lisniak, P. Miné, M. Nguyen, C. Ochando, G. Ortona, P. Paganini, P. Pigard, S. Regnard, R. Salerno, Y. Sirois, A.G. Stahl Leiton, T. Strebler, Y. Yilmaz, A. Zabi, A. Zghiche

*Laboratoire Leprince-Ringuet, Ecole Polytechnique, IN2P3-CNRS, Palaiseau, France*

J.-L. Agram<sup>13</sup>, J. Andrea, A. Aubin, D. Bloch, J.-M. Brom, M. Buttignol, E.C. Chabert, N. Chanon, C. Collard, E. Conte<sup>13</sup>, X. Coubez, J.-C. Fontaine<sup>13</sup>, D. Gelé, U. Goerlach, A.-C. Le Bihan, P. Van Hove

*Institut Pluridisciplinaire Hubert Curien (IPHC), Université de Strasbourg, CNRS-IN2P3, France*

S. Gadrat

*Centre de Calcul de l'Institut National de Physique Nucleaire et de Physique des Particules, CNRS/IN2P3, Villeurbanne, France*

S. Beauceron, C. Bernet, G. Boudoul, C.A. Carrillo Montoya, R. Chierici, D. Contardo, B. Courbon, P. Depasse, H. El Mamouni, J. Fay, S. Gascon, M. Gouzevitch, G. Grenier, B. Ille, F. Lagarde, I.B. Laktineh, M. Lethuillier, L. Mirabito, A.L. Pequegnot, S. Perries, A. Popov<sup>14</sup>, D. Sabes, V. Sordini, M. Vander Donckt, P. Verdier, S. Viret

*Université de Lyon, Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1, CNRS-IN2P3, Institut de Physique Nucléaire de Lyon, Villeurbanne, France*

A. Khvedelidze<sup>8</sup>

*Georgian Technical University, Tbilisi, Georgia*

I. Bagaturia<sup>15</sup>

*Tbilisi State University, Tbilisi, Georgia*

C. Autermann, S. Beranek, L. Feld, M.K. Kiesel, K. Klein, M. Lipinski, M. Preuten, C. Schomakers, J. Schulz, T. Verlage

*RWTH Aachen University, I. Physikalisches Institut, Aachen, Germany*

A. Albert, M. Brodski, E. Dietz-Laursonn, D. Duchardt, M. Endres, M. Erdmann, S. Erdweg, T. Esch, R. Fischer, A. Güth, M. Hamer, T. Hebbeker, C. Heidemann, K. Hoepfner, S. Knutzen, M. Merschmeyer, A. Meyer, P. Millet, S. Mukherjee, M. Olschewski, K. Padeken, T. Pook, M. Radziej, H. Reithler, M. Rieger, F. Scheuch, L. Sonnenschein, D. Teyssier, S. Thüer

*RWTH Aachen University, III. Physikalisches Institut A, Aachen, Germany*

V. Cherepanov, G. Flügge, B. Kargoll, T. Kress, A. Künsken, J. Lingemann, T. Müller, A. Nehr Korn, A. Nowack, C. Pistone, O. Pooth, A. Stahl <sup>16</sup>

*RWTH Aachen University, III. Physikalisches Institut B, Aachen, Germany*

M. Aldaya Martin, T. Arndt, C. Asawatangtrakuldee, K. Beernaert, O. Behnke, U. Behrens, A.A. Bin Anuar, K. Borras <sup>17</sup>, A. Campbell, P. Connor, C. Contreras-Campana, F. Costanza, C. Diez Pardos, G. Dolinska, G. Eckerlin, D. Eckstein, T. Eichhorn, E. Eren, E. Gallo <sup>18</sup>, J. Garay Garcia, A. Geiser, A. Gizhko, J.M. Grados Luyando, A. Grohsjean, P. Gunnellini, A. Harb, J. Hauk, M. Hempel <sup>19</sup>, H. Jung, A. Kalogeropoulos, O. Karacheban <sup>19</sup>, M. Kasemann, J. Keaveney, C. Kleinwort, I. Korol, D. Krücker, W. Lange, A. Lelek, T. Lenz, J. Leonard, K. Lipka, A. Lobanov, W. Lohmann <sup>19</sup>, R. Mankel, I.-A. Melzer-Pellmann, A.B. Meyer, G. Mittag, J. Mnich, A. Mussgiller, D. Pitzl, R. Placakyte, A. Raspereza, B. Roland, M.Ö. Sahin, P. Saxena, T. Schoerner-Sadenius, S. Spannagel, N. Stefaniuk, G.P. Van Onsem, R. Walsh, C. Wissing

*Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron, Hamburg, Germany*

V. Blobel, M. Centis Vignali, A.R. Draeger, T. Dreyer, E. Garutti, D. Gonzalez, J. Haller, M. Hoffmann, A. Junkes, R. Klanner, R. Kogler, N. Kovalchuk, T. Lapsien, I. Marchesini, D. Marconi, M. Meyer, M. Niedziela, D. Nowatschin, F. Pantaleo <sup>16</sup>, T. Peiffer, A. Perieanu, C. Scharf, P. Schleper, A. Schmidt, S. Schumann, J. Schwandt, H. Stadie, G. Steinbrück, F.M. Stober, M. Stöver, H. Tholen, D. Troendle, E. Usai, L. Vanelderen, A. Vanhoefer, B. Vormwald

*University of Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany*

M. Akbiyik, C. Barth, S. Baur, C. Baus, J. Berger, E. Butz, R. Caspart, T. Chwalek, F. Colombo, W. De Boer, A. Dierlamm, S. Fink, B. Freund, R. Friese, M. Giffels, A. Gilbert, P. Goldenzweig, D. Haitz, F. Hartmann <sup>16</sup>, S.M. Heindl, U. Husemann, I. Katkov <sup>14</sup>, S. Kudella, H. Mildner, M.U. Mozer, Th. Müller, M. Plagge, G. Quast, K. Rabbertz, S. Röcker, F. Roscher, M. Schröder, I. Shvetsov, G. Sieber, H.J. Simonis, R. Ulrich, S. Wayand, M. Weber, T. Weiler, S. Williamson, C. Wöhrmann, R. Wolf

*Institut für Experimentelle Kernphysik, Karlsruhe, Germany*

G. Anagnostou, G. Daskalakis, T. Geralis, V.A. Giakoumopoulou, A. Kyriakis, D. Loukas, I. Topsis-Giotis

*Institute of Nuclear and Particle Physics (INPP), NCSR Demokritos, Aghia Paraskevi, Greece*

S. Kesisoglou, A. Panagiotou, N. Saoulidou, E. Tziaferi

*National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Athens, Greece*

I. Evangelou, G. Flouris, C. Foudas, P. Kokkas, N. Loukas, N. Manthos, I. Papadopoulos, E. Paradas

*University of Ioánnina, Ioánnina, Greece*

N. Filipovic, G. Pasztor

*MTA-ELTE Lendület CMS Particle and Nuclear Physics Group, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary*

G. Bencze, C. Hajdu, D. Horvath <sup>20</sup>, F. Sikler, V. Veszpremi, G. Vesztergombi <sup>21</sup>, A.J. Zsigmond

*Wigner Research Centre for Physics, Budapest, Hungary*

N. Beni, S. Czellar, J. Karancsi<sup>22</sup>, A. Makovec, J. Molnar, Z. Szillasi

*Institute of Nuclear Research ATOMKI, Debrecen, Hungary*

M. Bartók<sup>21</sup>, P. Raics, Z.L. Trocsanyi, B. Ujvari

*Institute of Physics, University of Debrecen, Hungary*

J.R. Komaragiri

*Indian Institute of Science (IISc), India*

S. Bahinipati<sup>23</sup>, S. Bhowmik<sup>24</sup>, S. Choudhury<sup>25</sup>, P. Mal, K. Mandal, A. Nayak<sup>26</sup>, D.K. Sahoo<sup>23</sup>, N. Sahoo, S.K. Swain

*National Institute of Science Education and Research, Bhubaneswar, India*

S. Bansal, S.B. Beri, V. Bhatnagar, R. Chawla, U. Bhawandeep, A.K. Kalsi, A. Kaur, M. Kaur, R. Kumar, P. Kumari, A. Mehta, M. Mittal, J.B. Singh, G. Walia

*Panjab University, Chandigarh, India*

Ashok Kumar, A. Bhardwaj, B.C. Choudhary, R.B. Garg, S. Keshri, S. Malhotra, M. Naimuddin, K. Ranjan, R. Sharma, V. Sharma

*University of Delhi, Delhi, India*

R. Bhattacharya, S. Bhattacharya, K. Chatterjee, S. Dey, S. Dutt, S. Dutta, S. Ghosh, N. Majumdar, A. Modak, K. Mondal, S. Mukhopadhyay, S. Nandan, A. Purohit, A. Roy, D. Roy, S. Roy Chowdhury, S. Sarkar, M. Sharan, S. Thakur

*Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics, Kolkata, India*

P.K. Behera

*Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Madras, India*

R. Chudasama, D. Dutta, V. Jha, V. Kumar, A.K. Mohanty<sup>16</sup>, P.K. Netrakanti, L.M. Pant, P. Shukla, A. Topkar

*Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mumbai, India*

T. Aziz, S. Dugad, G. Kole, B. Mahakud, S. Mitra, G.B. Mohanty, B. Parida, N. Sur, B. Sutar

*Tata Institute of Fundamental Research-A, Mumbai, India*

S. Banerjee, R.K. Dewanjee, S. Ganguly, M. Guchait, Sa. Jain, S. Kumar, M. Maity<sup>24</sup>, G. Majumder, K. Mazumdar, T. Sarkar<sup>24</sup>, N. Wickramage<sup>27</sup>

*Tata Institute of Fundamental Research-B, Mumbai, India*

S. Chauhan, S. Dube, V. Hegde, A. Kapoor, K. Kothekar, S. Pandey, A. Rane, S. Sharma

*Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Pune, India*

S. Chenarani<sup>28</sup>, E. Eskandari Tadavani, S.M. Etesami<sup>28</sup>, M. Khakzad, M. Mohammadi Najafabadi, M. Naseri, S. Paktinat Mehdiabadi<sup>29</sup>, F. Rezaei Hosseinabadi, B. Safarzadeh<sup>30</sup>, M. Zeinali

*Institute for Research in Fundamental Sciences (IPM), Tehran, Iran*

M. Felcini, M. Grunewald

*University College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland*

M. Abbrescia<sup>a,b</sup>, C. Calabria<sup>a,b</sup>, C. Caputo<sup>a,b</sup>, A. Colaleo<sup>a</sup>, D. Creanza<sup>a,c</sup>, L. Cristella<sup>a,b</sup>, N. De Filippis<sup>a,c</sup>, M. De Palma<sup>a,b</sup>, L. Fiore<sup>a</sup>, G. Iaselli<sup>a,c</sup>, G. Maggi<sup>a,c</sup>, M. Maggi<sup>a</sup>, G. Miniello<sup>a,b</sup>, S. My<sup>a,b</sup>, S. Nuzzo<sup>a,b</sup>,



A. Pompili<sup>a,b</sup>, G. Pugliese<sup>a,c</sup>, R. Radogna<sup>a,b</sup>, A. Ranieri<sup>a</sup>, G. Selvaggi<sup>a,b</sup>, A. Sharma<sup>a</sup>, L. Silvestris<sup>a,16</sup>, R. Venditti<sup>a,b</sup>, P. Verwilligen<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> INFN Sezione di Bari, Bari, Italy

<sup>b</sup> Università di Bari, Bari, Italy

<sup>c</sup> Politecnico di Bari, Bari, Italy

G. Abbiendi<sup>a</sup>, C. Battilana, D. Bonacorsi<sup>a,b</sup>, S. Braibant-Giacomelli<sup>a,b</sup>, L. Brigliadori<sup>a,b</sup>, R. Campanini<sup>a,b</sup>, P. Capiluppi<sup>a,b</sup>, A. Castro<sup>a,b</sup>, F.R. Cavallo<sup>a</sup>, S.S. Chhibra<sup>a,b</sup>, G. Codispoti<sup>a,b</sup>, M. Cuffiani<sup>a,b</sup>, G.M. Dallavalle<sup>a</sup>, F. Fabbri<sup>a</sup>, A. Fanfani<sup>a,b</sup>, D. Fasanella<sup>a,b</sup>, P. Giacomelli<sup>a</sup>, C. Grandi<sup>a</sup>, L. Guiducci<sup>a,b</sup>, S. Marcellini<sup>a</sup>, G. Masetti<sup>a</sup>, A. Montanari<sup>a</sup>, F.L. Navarria<sup>a,b</sup>, A. Perrotta<sup>a</sup>, A.M. Rossi<sup>a,b</sup>, T. Rovelli<sup>a,b</sup>, G.P. Siroli<sup>a,b</sup>, N. Tosi<sup>a,b,16</sup>

<sup>a</sup> INFN Sezione di Bologna, Bologna, Italy

<sup>b</sup> Università di Bologna, Bologna, Italy

S. Albergo<sup>a,b</sup>, S. Costa<sup>a,b</sup>, A. Di Mattia<sup>a</sup>, F. Giordano<sup>a,b</sup>, R. Potenza<sup>a,b</sup>, A. Tricomi<sup>a,b</sup>, C. Tuve<sup>a,b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> INFN Sezione di Catania, Catania, Italy

<sup>b</sup> Università di Catania, Catania, Italy

G. Barbagli<sup>a</sup>, V. Ciulli<sup>a,b</sup>, C. Civinini<sup>a</sup>, R. D'Alessandro<sup>a,b</sup>, E. Focardi<sup>a,b</sup>, P. Lenzi<sup>a,b</sup>, M. Meschini<sup>a</sup>, S. Paoletti<sup>a</sup>, L. Russo<sup>a,31</sup>, G. Sguazzoni<sup>a</sup>, D. Strom<sup>a</sup>, L. Viliani<sup>a,b,16</sup>

<sup>a</sup> INFN Sezione di Firenze, Firenze, Italy

<sup>b</sup> Università di Firenze, Firenze, Italy

L. Benussi, S. Bianco, F. Fabbri, D. Piccolo, F. Primavera<sup>16</sup>

INFN Laboratori Nazionali di Frascati, Frascati, Italy

V. Calvelli<sup>a,b</sup>, F. Ferro<sup>a</sup>, M.R. Monge<sup>a,b</sup>, E. Robutti<sup>a</sup>, S. Tosi<sup>a,b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> INFN Sezione di Genova, Genova, Italy

<sup>b</sup> Università di Genova, Genova, Italy

L. Brianza<sup>a,b,16</sup>, F. Brivio<sup>a,b</sup>, V. Ciriolo, M.E. Dinardo<sup>a,b</sup>, S. Fiorendi<sup>a,b,16</sup>, S. Gennai<sup>a</sup>, A. Ghezzi<sup>a,b</sup>, P. Govoni<sup>a,b</sup>, M. Malberti<sup>a,b</sup>, S. Malvezzi<sup>a</sup>, R.A. Manzoni<sup>a,b</sup>, D. Menasce<sup>a</sup>, L. Moroni<sup>a</sup>, M. Paganoni<sup>a,b</sup>, D. Pedrini<sup>a</sup>, S. Pigazzini<sup>a,b</sup>, S. Ragazzi<sup>a,b</sup>, T. Tabarelli de Fatis<sup>a,b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> INFN Sezione di Milano-Bicocca, Milano, Italy

<sup>b</sup> Università di Milano-Bicocca, Milano, Italy

S. Buontempo<sup>a</sup>, N. Cavallo<sup>a,c</sup>, G. De Nardo, S. Di Guida<sup>a,d,16</sup>, M. Esposito<sup>a,b</sup>, F. Fabozzi<sup>a,c</sup>, F. Fienga<sup>a,b</sup>, A.O.M. Iorio<sup>a,b</sup>, G. Lanza<sup>a</sup>, L. Lista<sup>a</sup>, S. Meola<sup>a,d,16</sup>, P. Paolucci<sup>a,16</sup>, C. Sciacca<sup>a,b</sup>, F. Thyssen<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> INFN Sezione di Napoli, Napoli, Italy

<sup>b</sup> Università di Napoli 'Federico II', Napoli, Italy

<sup>c</sup> Università della Basilicata, Potenza, Italy

<sup>d</sup> Università G. Marconi, Roma, Italy

P. Azzi<sup>a,16</sup>, N. Bacchetta<sup>a</sup>, L. Benato<sup>a,b</sup>, D. Bisello<sup>a,b</sup>, A. Boletti<sup>a,b</sup>, M. Dall'Osso<sup>a,b</sup>, P. De Castro Manzano<sup>a</sup>, T. Dorigo<sup>a</sup>, U. Dosselli<sup>a</sup>, F. Gasparini<sup>a,b</sup>, U. Gasparini<sup>a,b</sup>, A. Gozzelino<sup>a</sup>, M. Gulmini<sup>a,32</sup>, S. Lacaprara<sup>a</sup>, M. Margoni<sup>a,b</sup>, G. Maron<sup>a,32</sup>, A.T. Meneguzzo<sup>a,b</sup>, M. Michelotto<sup>a</sup>, J. Pazzini<sup>a,b</sup>, N. Pozzobon<sup>a,b</sup>, P. Ronchese<sup>a,b</sup>, F. Simonetto<sup>a,b</sup>, E. Torassa<sup>a</sup>, M. Zanetti<sup>a,b</sup>, P. Zotto<sup>a,b</sup>, G. Zumerle<sup>a,b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> INFN Sezione di Padova, Padova, Italy

<sup>b</sup> Università di Padova, Padova, Italy

<sup>c</sup> Università di Trento, Trento, Italy

A. Braghieri<sup>a</sup>, F. Fallavollita<sup>a,b</sup>, A. Magnani<sup>a,b</sup>, P. Montagna<sup>a,b</sup>, S.P. Ratti<sup>a,b</sup>, V. Re<sup>a</sup>, C. Riccardi<sup>a,b</sup>, P. Salvini<sup>a</sup>, I. Vai<sup>a,b</sup>, P. Vitulo<sup>a,b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> INFN Sezione di Pavia, Pavia, Italy

<sup>b</sup> Università di Pavia, Pavia, Italy

L. Alunni Solestizi <sup>a,b</sup>, G.M. Bilei <sup>a</sup>, D. Ciangottini <sup>a,b</sup>, L. Fanò <sup>a,b</sup>, P. Lariccia <sup>a,b</sup>, R. Leonardi <sup>a,b</sup>,  
G. Mantovani <sup>a,b</sup>, V. Mariani <sup>a,b</sup>, M. Menichelli <sup>a</sup>, A. Saha <sup>a</sup>, A. Santocchia <sup>a,b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> INFN Sezione di Perugia, Perugia, Italy

<sup>b</sup> Università di Perugia, Perugia, Italy

K. Androsov <sup>a,31</sup>, P. Azzurri <sup>a,16</sup>, G. Bagliesi <sup>a</sup>, J. Bernardini <sup>a</sup>, T. Boccali <sup>a</sup>, R. Castaldi <sup>a</sup>, M.A. Ciocci <sup>a,31</sup>,  
R. Dell’Orso <sup>a</sup>, S. Donato <sup>a,c</sup>, G. Fedi, A. Giassi <sup>a</sup>, M.T. Grippo <sup>a,31</sup>, F. Ligabue <sup>a,c</sup>, T. Lomtadze <sup>a</sup>, L. Martini <sup>a,b</sup>,  
A. Messineo <sup>a,b</sup>, F. Palla <sup>a</sup>, A. Rizzi <sup>a,b</sup>, A. Savoy-Navarro <sup>a,33</sup>, P. Spagnolo <sup>a</sup>, R. Tenchini <sup>a</sup>, G. Tonelli <sup>a,b</sup>,  
A. Venturi <sup>a</sup>, P.G. Verdini <sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> INFN Sezione di Pisa, Pisa, Italy

<sup>b</sup> Università di Pisa, Pisa, Italy

<sup>c</sup> Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa, Pisa, Italy

L. Barone <sup>a,b</sup>, F. Cavallari <sup>a</sup>, M. Cipriani <sup>a,b</sup>, D. Del Re <sup>a,b,16</sup>, M. Diemoz <sup>a</sup>, S. Gelli <sup>a,b</sup>, E. Longo <sup>a,b</sup>,  
F. Margaroli <sup>a,b</sup>, B. Marzocchi <sup>a,b</sup>, P. Meridiani <sup>a</sup>, G. Organtini <sup>a,b</sup>, R. Paramatti <sup>a</sup>, F. Preiato <sup>a,b</sup>,  
S. Rahatlou <sup>a,b</sup>, C. Rovelli <sup>a</sup>, F. Santanastasio <sup>a,b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> INFN Sezione di Roma, Roma, Italy

<sup>b</sup> Università di Roma, Roma, Italy

N. Amapane <sup>a,b</sup>, R. Arcidiacono <sup>a,c,16</sup>, S. Argiro <sup>a,b</sup>, M. Arneodo <sup>a,c</sup>, N. Bartosik <sup>a</sup>, R. Bellan <sup>a,b</sup>, C. Biino <sup>a</sup>,  
N. Cartiglia <sup>a</sup>, F. Cenna <sup>a,b</sup>, M. Costa <sup>a,b</sup>, R. Covarelli <sup>a,b</sup>, A. Degano <sup>a,b</sup>, N. Demaria <sup>a</sup>, L. Finco <sup>a,b</sup>, B. Kiani <sup>a,b</sup>,  
C. Mariotti <sup>a</sup>, S. Maselli <sup>a</sup>, E. Migliore <sup>a,b</sup>, V. Monaco <sup>a,b</sup>, E. Monteil <sup>a,b</sup>, M. Monteno <sup>a</sup>, M.M. Obertino <sup>a,b</sup>,  
L. Pacher <sup>a,b</sup>, N. Pastrone <sup>a</sup>, M. Pelliccioni <sup>a</sup>, G.L. Pinna Angioni <sup>a,b</sup>, F. Ravera <sup>a,b</sup>, A. Romero <sup>a,b</sup>, M. Ruspa <sup>a,c</sup>,  
R. Sacchi <sup>a,b</sup>, K. Shchelina <sup>a,b</sup>, V. Sola <sup>a</sup>, A. Solano <sup>a,b</sup>, A. Staiano <sup>a</sup>, P. Traczyk <sup>a,b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> INFN Sezione di Torino, Torino, Italy

<sup>b</sup> Università di Torino, Torino, Italy

<sup>c</sup> Università del Piemonte Orientale, Novara, Italy

S. Belforte <sup>a</sup>, M. Casarsa <sup>a</sup>, F. Cossutti <sup>a</sup>, G. Della Ricca <sup>a,b</sup>, A. Zanetti <sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> INFN Sezione di Trieste, Trieste, Italy

<sup>b</sup> Università di Trieste, Trieste, Italy

D.H. Kim, G.N. Kim, M.S. Kim, S. Lee, S.W. Lee, Y.D. Oh, S. Sekmen, D.C. Son, Y.C. Yang

Kyungpook National University, Daegu, Republic of Korea

A. Lee

Chonbuk National University, Jeonju, Republic of Korea

H. Kim

Chonnam National University, Institute for Universe and Elementary Particles, Kwangju, Republic of Korea

J.A. Brochero Cifuentes, T.J. Kim

Hanyang University, Seoul, Republic of Korea

S. Cho, S. Choi, Y. Go, D. Gyun, S. Ha, B. Hong, Y. Jo, Y. Kim, K. Lee, K.S. Lee, S. Lee, J. Lim, S.K. Park, Y. Roh

Korea University, Seoul, Republic of Korea

J. Almond, J. Kim, H. Lee, S.B. Oh, B.C. Radburn-Smith, S.h. Seo, U.K. Yang, H.D. Yoo, G.B. Yu

Seoul National University, Seoul, Republic of Korea

M. Choi, H. Kim, J.H. Kim, J.S.H. Lee, I.C. Park, G. Ryu, M.S. Ryu

University of Seoul, Seoul, Republic of Korea

Y. Choi, J. Goh, C. Hwang, J. Lee, I. Yu

*Sungkyunkwan University, Suwon, Republic of Korea*

V. Dudenias, A. Juodagalvis, J. Vaitkus

*Vilnius University, Vilnius, Lithuania*

I. Ahmed, Z.A. Ibrahim, M.A.B. Md Ali<sup>34</sup>, F. Mohamad Idris<sup>35</sup>, W.A.T. Wan Abdullah, M.N. Yusli, Z. Zolkapli

*National Centre for Particle Physics, Universiti Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia*

H. Castilla-Valdez, E. De La Cruz-Burelo, I. Heredia-De La Cruz<sup>36</sup>, A. Hernandez-Almada, R. Lopez-Fernandez, R. Magaña Villalba, J. Mejia Guisao, A. Sanchez-Hernandez

*Centro de Investigacion y de Estudios Avanzados del IPN, Mexico City, Mexico*

S. Carrillo Moreno, C. Oropeza Barrera, F. Vazquez Valencia

*Universidad Iberoamericana, Mexico City, Mexico*

S. Carpintheyro, I. Pedraza, H.A. Salazar Ibarguen, C. Uribe Estrada

*Benemerita Universidad Autonoma de Puebla, Puebla, Mexico*

A. Morelos Pineda

*Universidad Autónoma de San Luis Potosí, San Luis Potosí, Mexico*

D. Krofcheck

*University of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand*

P.H. Butler

*University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand*

A. Ahmad, M. Ahmad, Q. Hassan, H.R. Hoorani, W.A. Khan, A. Saddique, M.A. Shah, M. Shoaib, M. Waqas

*National Centre for Physics, Quaid-I-Azam University, Islamabad, Pakistan*

H. Bialkowska, M. Bluj, B. Boimska, T. Frueboes, M. Górski, M. Kazana, K. Nawrocki, K. Romanowska-Rybinska, M. Szleper, P. Zalewski

*National Centre for Nuclear Research, Swierk, Poland*

K. Bunkowski, A. Byszuk<sup>37</sup>, K. Doroba, A. Kalinowski, M. Konecki, J. Krolikowski, M. Misiura, M. Olszewski, M. Walczak

*Institute of Experimental Physics, Faculty of Physics, University of Warsaw, Warsaw, Poland*

P. Bargassa, C. Beirão Da Cruz E Silva, B. Calpas, A. Di Francesco, P. Faccioli, P.G. Ferreira Parracho, M. Gallinaro, J. Hollar, N. Leonardo, L. Lloret Iglesias, M.V. Nemallapudi, J. Rodrigues Antunes, J. Seixas, O. Toldaiev, D. Vadrucio, J. Varela

*Laboratório de Instrumentação e Física Experimental de Partículas, Lisboa, Portugal*

S. Afanasiev, P. Bunin, M. Gavrilenko, I. Golutvin, I. Gorbunov, A. Kamenev, V. Karjavin, A. Lanev, A. Malakhov, V. Matveev<sup>38,39</sup>, V. Palichik, V. Pereygin, S. Shmatov, S. Shulha, N. Skatchkov, V. Smirnov, N. Voytishin, A. Zarubin

*Joint Institute for Nuclear Research, Dubna, Russia*

L. Chtchipounov, V. Golovtsov, Y. Ivanov, V. Kim<sup>40</sup>, E. Kuznetsova<sup>41</sup>, V. Murzin, V. Oreshkin, V. Sulimov, A. Vorobyev

*Petersburg Nuclear Physics Institute, Gatchina (St. Petersburg), Russia*

Yu. Andreev, A. Dermenev, S. Gninenko, N. Golubev, A. Karneyeu, M. Kirsanov, N. Krasnikov, A. Pashenkov, D. Tlisov, A. Toropin

*Institute for Nuclear Research, Moscow, Russia*

V. Epshteyn, V. Gavrilov, N. Lychkovskaya, V. Popov, I. Pozdnyakov, G. Safronov, A. Spiridonov, M. Toms, E. Vlasov, A. Zhokin

*Institute for Theoretical and Experimental Physics, Moscow, Russia*

T. Aushev, A. Bylinkin<sup>39</sup>

*Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology, Moscow, Russia*

M. Chadeeva<sup>42</sup>, E. Popova, E. Tarkovskii

*National Research Nuclear University 'Moscow Engineering Physics Institute' (MEPhI), Moscow, Russia*

V. Andreev, M. Azarkin<sup>39</sup>, I. Dremin<sup>39</sup>, M. Kirakosyan, A. Leonidov<sup>39</sup>, A. Terkulov

*P.N. Lebedev Physical Institute, Moscow, Russia*

A. Baskakov, A. Belyaev, E. Boos, A. Demiyanov, A. Ershov, A. Gribushin, O. Kodolova, V. Korotkikh, I. Lokhtin, I. Miagkov, S. Obraztsov, S. Petrushanko, V. Savrin, A. Snigirev, I. Vardanyan

*Skolbel'syn Institute of Nuclear Physics, Lomonosov Moscow State University, Moscow, Russia*

V. Blinov<sup>43</sup>, Y. Skovpen<sup>43</sup>, D. Shtol<sup>43</sup>

*Novosibirsk State University (NSU), Novosibirsk, Russia*

I. Azhgirey, I. Bayshev, S. Bitioukov, D. Elumakhov, V. Kachanov, A. Kalinin, D. Konstantinov, V. Krychkin, V. Petrov, R. Ryutin, A. Sobol, S. Troshin, N. Tyurin, A. Uzunian, A. Volkov

*State Research Center of Russian Federation, Institute for High Energy Physics, Protvino, Russia*

P. Adzic<sup>44</sup>, P. Cirkovic, D. Devetak, M. Dordevic, J. Milosevic, V. Rekovic

*University of Belgrade, Faculty of Physics and Vinca Institute of Nuclear Sciences, Belgrade, Serbia*

J. Alcaraz Maestre, M. Barrio Luna, E. Calvo, M. Cerrada, M. Chamizo Llatas, N. Colino, B. De La Cruz, A. Delgado Peris, A. Escalante Del Valle, C. Fernandez Bedoya, J.P. Fernández Ramos, J. Flix, M.C. Fouz, P. Garcia-Abia, O. Gonzalez Lopez, S. Goy Lopez, J.M. Hernandez, M.I. Josa, E. Navarro De Martino, A. Pérez-Calero Yzquierdo, J. Puerta Pelayo, A. Quintario Olmeda, I. Redondo, L. Romero, M.S. Soares

*Centro de Investigaciones Energéticas Medioambientales y Tecnológicas (CIEMAT), Madrid, Spain*

J.F. de Trocóniz, M. Missiroli, D. Moran

*Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Madrid, Spain*

J. Cuevas, J. Fernandez Menendez, I. Gonzalez Caballero, J.R. González Fernández, E. Palencia Cortezon, S. Sanchez Cruz, I. Suárez Andrés, P. Vischia, J.M. Vizan Garcia

*Universidad de Oviedo, Oviedo, Spain*



I.J. Cabrillo, A. Calderon, E. Curras, M. Fernandez, J. Garcia-Ferrero, G. Gomez, A. Lopez Virto, J. Marco, C. Martinez Rivero, F. Matorras, J. Piedra Gomez, T. Rodrigo, A. Ruiz-Jimeno, L. Scodellaro, N. Trevisani, I. Vila, R. Vilar Cortabitarte

*Instituto de Física de Cantabria (IFCA), CSIC-Universidad de Cantabria, Santander, Spain*

D. Abbaneo, E. Auffray, G. Auzinger, P. Baillon, A.H. Ball, D. Barney, P. Bloch, A. Bocci, C. Botta, T. Camporesi, R. Castello, M. Cepeda, G. Cerminara, Y. Chen, D. d'Enterria, A. Dabrowski, V. Daponte, A. David, M. De Gruttola, A. De Roeck, E. Di Marco<sup>45</sup>, M. Dobson, B. Dorney, T. du Pree, D. Duggan, M. Dünser, N. Dupont, A. Elliott-Peisert, P. Everaerts, S. Fartoukh, G. Franzoni, J. Fulcher, W. Funk, D. Gigi, K. Gill, M. Girone, F. Glege, D. Gulhan, S. Gundacker, M. Guthoff, P. Harris, J. Hegeman, V. Innocente, P. Janot, J. Kieseler, H. Kirschenmann, V. Knünz, A. Kornmayer<sup>16</sup>, M.J. Kortelainen, K. Kousouris, M. Krammer<sup>1</sup>, C. Lange, P. Lecoq, C. Lourenço, M.T. Lucchini, L. Malgeri, M. Mannelli, A. Martelli, F. Meijers, J.A. Merlin, S. Mersi, E. Meschi, P. Milenovic<sup>46</sup>, F. Moortgat, S. Morovic, M. Mulders, H. Neugebauer, S. Orfanelli, L. Orsini, L. Pape, E. Perez, M. Peruzzi, A. Petrilli, G. Petrucciani, A. Pfeiffer, M. Pierini, A. Racz, T. Reis, G. Rolandi<sup>47</sup>, M. Rovere, H. Sakulin, J.B. Sauvan, C. Schäfer, C. Schwick, M. Seidel, A. Sharma, P. Silva, P. Sphicas<sup>48</sup>, J. Steggemann, M. Stoye, Y. Takahashi, M. Tosi, D. Treille, A. Triossi, A. Tsiros, V. Veckalns<sup>49</sup>, G.I. Veres<sup>21</sup>, M. Verweij, N. Wardle, H.K. Wöhri, A. Zagodzinska<sup>37</sup>, W.D. Zeuner

*CERN, European Organization for Nuclear Research, Geneva, Switzerland*

W. Bertl, K. Deiters, W. Erdmann, R. Horisberger, Q. Ingram, H.C. Kaestli, D. Kotlinski, U. Langenegger, T. Rohe, S.A. Wiederkehr

*Paul Scherrer Institut, Villigen, Switzerland*

F. Bachmair, L. Bäni, L. Bianchini, B. Casal, G. Dissertori, M. Dittmar, M. Donegà, C. Grab, C. Heidegger, D. Hits, J. Hoss, G. Kasieczka, W. Lustermann, B. Mangano, M. Marionneau, P. Martinez Ruiz del Arbol, M. Masciovecchio, M.T. Meinhard, D. Meister, F. Micheli, P. Musella, F. Nessi-Tedaldi, F. Pandolfi, J. Pata, F. Pauss, G. Perrin, L. Perrozzi, M. Quittnat, M. Rossini, M. Schönenberger, A. Starodumov<sup>50</sup>, V.R. Tavolaro, K. Theofilatos, R. Wallny

*Institute for Particle Physics, ETH Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland*

T.K. Aarrestad, C. AMSler<sup>51</sup>, L. Caminada, M.F. Canelli, A. De Cosa, C. Galloni, A. Hinzmann, T. Hreus, B. Kilminster, J. Ngadiuba, D. Pinna, G. Rauco, P. Robmann, D. Salerno, C. Seitz, Y. Yang, A. Zucchetta

*Universität Zürich, Zurich, Switzerland*

V. Candelise, T.H. Doan, Sh. Jain, R. Khurana, M. Konyushikhin, C.M. Kuo, W. Lin, A. Pozdnyakov, S.S. Yu

*National Central University, Chung-Li, Taiwan*

Arun Kumar, P. Chang, Y.H. Chang, Y. Chao, K.F. Chen, P.H. Chen, F. Fiori, W.-S. Hou, Y. Hsiung, Y.F. Liu, R.-S. Lu, M. Miñano Moya, E. Paganis, A. Psallidas, J.f. Tsai

*National Taiwan University (NTU), Taipei, Taiwan*

B. Asavapibhop, G. Singh, N. Srimanobhas, N. Suwonjandee

*Chulalongkorn University, Faculty of Science, Department of Physics, Bangkok, Thailand*

A. Adiguzel, M.N. Bakirci<sup>52</sup>, S. Cerci<sup>53</sup>, S. Damarseckin, Z.S. Demiroglu, C. Dozen, I. Dumanoglu, S. Girgis, G. Gokbulut, Y. Guler, I. Hos<sup>54</sup>, E.E. Kangal<sup>55</sup>, O. Kara, A. Kayis Topaksu, U. Kiminsu, M. Oglakci, G. Onengut<sup>56</sup>, K. Ozdemir<sup>57</sup>, B. Tali<sup>53</sup>, S. Turkcapar, I.S. Zorbakir, C. Zorbilmez

*Cukurova University - Physics Department, Science and Art Faculty, Turkey*

B. Bilin, S. Bilmis, B. Isildak<sup>58</sup>, G. Karapinar<sup>59</sup>, M. Yalvac, M. Zeyrek

*Middle East Technical University, Physics Department, Ankara, Turkey*

E. Gülmez, M. Kaya<sup>60</sup>, O. Kaya<sup>61</sup>, E.A. Yetkin<sup>62</sup>, T. Yetkin<sup>63</sup>

*Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey*

A. Cakir, K. Cankocak, S. Sen<sup>64</sup>

*Istanbul Technical University, Istanbul, Turkey*

B. Grynyov

*Institute for Scintillation Materials of National Academy of Science of Ukraine, Kharkov, Ukraine*

L. Levchuk, P. Sorokin

*National Scientific Center, Kharkov Institute of Physics and Technology, Kharkov, Ukraine*

R. Aggleton, F. Ball, L. Beck, J.J. Brooke, D. Burns, E. Clement, D. Cussans, H. Flacher, J. Goldstein, M. Grimes, G.P. Heath, H.F. Heath, J. Jacob, L. Kreczko, C. Lucas, D.M. Newbold<sup>65</sup>, S. Paramesvaran, A. Poll, T. Sakuma, S. Seif El Nasr-storey, D. Smith, V.J. Smith

*University of Bristol, Bristol, United Kingdom*

A. Belyaev<sup>66</sup>, C. Brew, R.M. Brown, L. Calligaris, D. Cieri, D.J.A. Cockerill, J.A. Coughlan, K. Harder, S. Harper, E. Olaiya, D. Petyt, C.H. Shepherd-Themistocleous, A. Thea, I.R. Tomalin, T. Williams

*Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Didcot, United Kingdom*

M. Baber, R. Bainbridge, O. Buchmuller, A. Bundock, D. Burton, S. Casasso, M. Citron, D. Colling, L. Corpe, P. Dauncey, G. Davies, A. De Wit, M. Della Negra, R. Di Maria, P. Dunne, A. Elwood, D. Futyan, Y. Haddad, G. Hall, G. Iles, T. James, R. Lane, C. Laner, R. Lucas<sup>65</sup>, L. Lyons, A.-M. Magnan, S. Malik, L. Mastrolorenzo, J. Nash, A. Nikitenko<sup>50</sup>, J. Pela, B. Penning, M. Pesaresi, D.M. Raymond, A. Richards, A. Rose, E. Scott, C. Seez, S. Summers, A. Tapper, K. Uchida, M. Vazquez Acosta<sup>67</sup>, T. Virdee<sup>16</sup>, J. Wright, S.C. Zenz

*Imperial College, London, United Kingdom*

J.E. Cole, P.R. Hobson, A. Khan, P. Kyberd, I.D. Reid, P. Symonds, L. Teodorescu, M. Turner

*Brunel University, Uxbridge, United Kingdom*

A. Borzou, K. Call, J. Dittmann, K. Hatakeyama, H. Liu, N. Pastika

*Baylor University, Waco, USA*

R. Bartek, A. Dominguez

*Catholic University of America, United States*

A. Buccilli, S.I. Cooper, C. Henderson, P. Rumerio, C. West

*The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, USA*

D. Arcaro, A. Avetisyan, T. Bose, D. Gastler, D. Rankin, C. Richardson, J. Rohlf, L. Sulak, D. Zou

*Boston University, Boston, USA*

G. Benelli, D. Cutts, A. Garabedian, J. Hakala, U. Heintz, J.M. Hogan, O. Jesus, K.H.M. Kwok, E. Laird, G. Landsberg, Z. Mao, M. Narain, S. Piperov, S. Sagir, E. Spencer, R. Syarif

*Brown University, Providence, USA*

R. Breedon, D. Burns, M. Calderon De La Barca Sanchez, S. Chauhan, M. Chertok, J. Conway, R. Conway, P.T. Cox, R. Erbacher, C. Flores, G. Funk, M. Gardner, W. Ko, R. Lander, C. Mclean, M. Mulhearn, D. Pellett, J. Pilot, S. Shalhout, M. Shi, J. Smith, M. Squires, D. Stolp, K. Tos, M. Tripathi

*University of California, Davis, Davis, USA*

M. Bachtis, C. Bravo, R. Cousins, A. Dasgupta, A. Florent, J. Hauser, M. Ignatenko, N. Mccoll, D. Saltzberg, C. Schnaible, V. Valuev, M. Weber

*University of California, Los Angeles, USA*

E. Bouvier, K. Burt, R. Clare, J. Ellison, J.W. Gary, S.M.A. Ghiasi Shirazi, G. Hanson, J. Heilman, P. Jandir, E. Kennedy, F. Lacroix, O.R. Long, M. Olmedo Negrete, M.I. Paneva, A. Shrinivas, W. Si, H. Wei, S. Wimpenny, B.R. Yates

*University of California, Riverside, Riverside, USA*

J.G. Branson, G.B. Cerati, S. Cittolin, M. Derdzinski, R. Gerosa, A. Holzner, D. Klein, V. Krutelyov, J. Letts, I. Macneill, D. Olivito, S. Padhi, M. Pieri, M. Sani, V. Sharma, S. Simon, M. Tadel, A. Vartak, S. Wasserbaech<sup>68</sup>, C. Welke, J. Wood, F. Würthwein, A. Yagil, G. Zevi Della Porta

*University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, USA*

N. Amin, R. Bhandari, J. Bradmiller-Feld, C. Campagnari, A. Dishaw, V. Dutta, M. Franco Sevilla, C. George, F. Golf, L. Gouskos, J. Gran, R. Heller, J. Incandela, S.D. Mullin, A. Ovcharova, H. Qu, J. Richman, D. Stuart, I. Suarez, J. Yoo

*University of California, Santa Barbara - Department of Physics, Santa Barbara, USA*

D. Anderson, J. Bendavid, A. Bornheim, J. Bunn, J. Duarte, J.M. Lawhorn, A. Mott, H.B. Newman, C. Pena, M. Spiropulu, J.R. Vlimant, S. Xie, R.Y. Zhu

*California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, USA*

M.B. Andrews, T. Ferguson, M. Paulini, J. Russ, M. Sun, H. Vogel, I. Vorobiev, M. Weinberg

*Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA*

J.P. Cumalat, W.T. Ford, F. Jensen, A. Johnson, M. Krohn, S. Leontsinis, T. Mulholland, K. Stenson, S.R. Wagner

*University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, USA*

J. Alexander, J. Chaves, J. Chu, S. Dittmer, K. Mcdermott, N. Mirman, G. Nicolas Kaufman, J.R. Patterson, A. Rinkevicius, A. Ryd, L. Skinnari, L. Soffi, S.M. Tan, Z. Tao, J. Thom, J. Tucker, P. Wittich, M. Zientek

*Cornell University, Ithaca, USA*

D. Winn

*Fairfield University, Fairfield, USA*

S. Abdullin, M. Albrow, G. Apollinari, A. Apresyan, S. Banerjee, L.A.T. Bauerdick, A. Beretvas, J. Berryhill, P.C. Bhat, G. Bolla, K. Burkett, J.N. Butler, H.W.K. Cheung, F. Chlebana, S. Cihangir<sup>†</sup>, M. Cremonesi, V.D. Elvira, I. Fisk, J. Freeman, E. Gottschalk, L. Gray, D. Green, S. Grünendahl, O. Gutsche, D. Hare, R.M. Harris, S. Hasegawa, J. Hirschauer, Z. Hu, B. Jayatilaka, S. Jindariani, M. Johnson, U. Joshi, B. Klima, B. Kreis, S. Lammel, J. Linacre, D. Lincoln, R. Lipton, M. Liu, T. Liu, R. Lopes De Sá, J. Lykken, K. Maeshima, N. Magini, J.M. Marraffino, S. Maruyama, D. Mason, P. McBride, P. Merkel, S. Mrenna, S. Nahn, V. O'Dell, K. Pedro, O. Prokofyev, G. Rakness, L. Ristori, E. Sexton-Kennedy, A. Soha, W.J. Spalding, L. Spiegel, S. Stoynev, J. Strait, N. Strobbe, L. Taylor, S. Tkaczyk, N.V. Tran, L. Uplegger, E.W. Vaandering, C. Vernieri, M. Verzocchi, R. Vidal, M. Wang, H.A. Weber, A. Whitbeck, Y. Wu

*Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, Batavia, USA*

D. Acosta, P. Avery, P. Bortignon, D. Bourilkov, A. Brinkerhoff, A. Carnes, M. Carver, D. Curry, S. Das, R.D. Field, I.K. Furic, J. Konigsberg, A. Korytov, J.F. Low, P. Ma, K. Matchev, H. Mei, G. Mitselmakher, D. Rank, L. Shchutska, D. Sperka, L. Thomas, J. Wang, S. Wang, J. Yelton

*University of Florida, Gainesville, USA*

S. Linn, P. Markowitz, G. Martinez, J.L. Rodriguez

*Florida International University, Miami, USA*

A. Ackert, T. Adams, A. Askew, S. Bein, S. Hagopian, V. Hagopian, K.F. Johnson, T. Kolberg, H. Prosper, A. Santra, R. Yohay

*Florida State University, Tallahassee, USA*

M.M. Baarmand, V. Bhopatkar, S. Colafranceschi, M. Hohlmann, D. Noonan, T. Roy, F. Yumiceva

*Florida Institute of Technology, Melbourne, USA*

M.R. Adams, L. Apanasevich, D. Berry, R.R. Betts, I. Bucinskaite, R. Cavanaugh, O. Evdokimov, L. Gauthier, C.E. Gerber, D.J. Hofman, K. Jung, I.D. Sandoval Gonzalez, N. Varelas, H. Wang, Z. Wu, M. Zakaria, J. Zhang

*University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), Chicago, USA*

B. Bilki<sup>69</sup>, W. Clarida, K. Dilsiz, S. Durgut, R.P. Gandrajula, M. Haytmyradov, V. Khristenko, J.-P. Merlo, H. Mermerkaya<sup>70</sup>, A. Mestvirishvili, A. Moeller, J. Nachtman, H. Ogul, Y. Onel, F. Ozok<sup>71</sup>, A. Penzo, C. Snyder, E. Tiras, J. Wetzel, K. Yi

*The University of Iowa, Iowa City, USA*

B. Blumenfeld, A. Cocoros, N. Eminizer, D. Fehling, L. Feng, A.V. Gritsan, P. Maksimovic, J. Roskes, U. Sarica, M. Swartz, M. Xiao, C. You

*Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, USA*

A. Al-bataineh, P. Baringer, A. Bean, S. Boren, J. Bowen, J. Castle, L. Forthomme, R.P. Kenny III, S. Khalil, A. Kropivnitskaya, D. Majumder, W. Mcbrayer, M. Murray, S. Sanders, R. Stringer, J.D. Tapia Takaki, Q. Wang

*The University of Kansas, Lawrence, USA*

A. Ivanov, K. Kaadze, Y. Maravin, A. Mohammadi, L.K. Saini, N. Skhirtladze, S. Toda

*Kansas State University, Manhattan, USA*

F. Rebassoo, D. Wright

*Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Livermore, USA*

C. Anelli, A. Baden, O. Baron, A. Belloni, B. Calvert, S.C. Eno, C. Ferraioli, J.A. Gomez, N.J. Hadley, S. Jabeen, G.Y. Jeng, R.G. Kellogg, J. Kunkle, A.C. Mignerey, F. Ricci-Tam, Y.H. Shin, A. Skuja, M.B. Tonjes, S.C. Tonwar

*University of Maryland, College Park, USA*

D. Abercrombie, B. Allen, A. Apyan, V. Azzolini, R. Barbieri, A. Baty, R. Bi, K. Bierwagen, S. Brandt, W. Busza, I.A. Cali, M. D'Alfonso, Z. Demiragli, G. Gomez Ceballos, M. Goncharov, D. Hsu, Y. Iiyama, G.M. Innocenti, M. Klute, D. Kovalskyi, K. Krajczar, Y.S. Lai, Y.-J. Lee, A. Levin, P.D. Luckey, B. Maier, A.C. Marini, C. McGinn, C. Mironov, S. Narayanan, X. Niu, C. Paus, C. Roland, G. Roland, J. Salfeld-Nebgen, G.S.F. Stephens, K. Tatar, D. Velicanu, J. Wang, T.W. Wang, B. Wyslouch

*Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, USA*

A.C. Benvenuti, R.M. Chatterjee, A. Evans, P. Hansen, S. Kalafut, S.C. Kao, Y. Kubota, Z. Lesko, J. Mans, S. Nourbakhsh, N. Ruckstuhl, R. Rusack, N. Tambe, J. Turkewitz

*University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, USA*

J.G. Acosta, S. Oliveros

*University of Mississippi, Oxford, USA*



E. Avdeeva, K. Bloom, D.R. Claes, C. Fangmeier, R. Gonzalez Suarez, R. Kamalieddin, I. Kravchenko, A. Malta Rodrigues, J. Monroy, J.E. Siado, G.R. Snow, B. Stieger

*University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, USA*

M. Alyari, J. Dolen, A. Godshalk, C. Harrington, I. Iashvili, J. Kaisen, D. Nguyen, A. Parker, S. Rappoccio, B. Roozbahani

*State University of New York at Buffalo, Buffalo, USA*

G. Alverson, E. Barberis, A. Hortiangtham, A. Massironi, D.M. Morse, D. Nash, T. Orimoto, R. Teixeira De Lima, D. Trocino, R.-J. Wang, D. Wood

*Northeastern University, Boston, USA*

S. Bhattacharya, O. Charaf, K.A. Hahn, A. Kumar, N. Mucia, N. Odell, B. Pollack, M.H. Schmitt, K. Sung, M. Trovato, M. Velasco

*Northwestern University, Evanston, USA*

N. Dev, M. Hildreth, K. Hurtado Anampa, C. Jessop, D.J. Karmgard, N. Kellams, K. Lannon, N. Marinelli, F. Meng, C. Mueller, Y. Musienko<sup>38</sup>, M. Planer, A. Reinsvold, R. Ruchti, N. Rupprecht, G. Smith, S. Taroni, M. Wayne, M. Wolf, A. Woodard

*University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, USA*

J. Alimena, L. Antonelli, B. Bylsma, L.S. Durkin, S. Flowers, B. Francis, A. Hart, C. Hill, R. Hughes, W. Ji, B. Liu, W. Luo, D. Puigh, B.L. Winer, H.W. Wulsin

*The Ohio State University, Columbus, USA*

S. Cooperstein, O. Driga, P. Elmer, J. Hardenbrook, P. Hebda, D. Lange, J. Luo, D. Marlow, T. Medvedeva, K. Mei, I. Ojalvo, J. Olsen, C. Palmer, P. Piroué, D. Stickland, A. Svyatkovskiy, C. Tully

*Princeton University, Princeton, USA*

S. Malik

*University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez, USA*

A. Barker, V.E. Barnes, S. Folgueras, L. Gutay, M.K. Jha, M. Jones, A.W. Jung, A. Khatiwada, D.H. Miller, N. Neumeister, J.F. Schulte, X. Shi, J. Sun, F. Wang, W. Xie

*Purdue University, West Lafayette, USA*

N. Parashar, J. Stupak

*Purdue University Calumet, Hammond, USA*

A. Adair, B. Akgun, Z. Chen, K.M. Ecklund, F.J.M. Geurts, M. Guilbaud, W. Li, B. Michlin, M. Northup, B.P. Padley, J. Roberts, J. Rorie, Z. Tu, J. Zabel

*Rice University, Houston, USA*

B. Betchart, A. Bodek, P. de Barbaro, R. Demina, Y.t. Duh, T. Ferbel, M. Galanti, A. Garcia-Bellido, J. Han, O. Hindrichs, A. Khukhunaishvili, K.H. Lo, P. Tan, M. Verzetti

*University of Rochester, Rochester, USA*

A. Agapitos, J.P. Chou, Y. Gershtein, T.A. Gómez Espinosa, E. Halkiadakis, M. Heindl, E. Hughes, S. Kaplan, R. Kunnawalkam Elayavalli, S. Kyriacou, A. Lath, K. Nash, M. Osherson, H. Saka, S. Salur, S. Schnetzer, D. Sheffield, S. Somalwar, R. Stone, S. Thomas, P. Thomassen, M. Walker

*Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Piscataway, USA*

A.G. Delannoy, M. Foerster, J. Heideman, G. Riley, K. Rose, S. Spanier, K. Thapa

*University of Tennessee, Knoxville, USA*

O. Bouhali<sup>72</sup>, A. Celik, M. Dalchenko, M. De Mattia, A. Delgado, S. Dildick, R. Eusebi, J. Gilmore, T. Huang, E. Juska, T. Kamon<sup>73</sup>, R. Mueller, Y. Pakhotin, R. Patel, A. Perloff, L. Perniè, D. Rathjens, A. Safonov, A. Tatarinov, K.A. Ulmer

*Texas A&M University, College Station, USA*

N. Akchurin, J. Damgov, F. De Guio, C. Dragoiu, P.R. Duerdo, J. Faulkner, E. Gurpinar, S. Kunori, K. Lamichhane, S.W. Lee, T. Libeiro, T. Peltola, S. Undleeb, I. Volobouev, Z. Wang

*Texas Tech University, Lubbock, USA*

S. Greene, A. Gurrola, R. Janjam, W. Johns, C. Maguire, A. Melo, H. Ni, P. Sheldon, S. Tuo, J. Velkovska, Q. Xu

*Vanderbilt University, Nashville, USA*

M.W. Arenton, P. Barria, B. Cox, J. Goodell, R. Hirosky, A. Ledovskoy, H. Li, C. Neu, T. Sinthuprasith, X. Sun, Y. Wang, E. Wolfe, F. Xia

*University of Virginia, Charlottesville, USA*

C. Clarke, R. Harr, P.E. Karchin, J. Sturdy

*Wayne State University, Detroit, USA*

D.A. Belknap, J. Buchanan, C. Caillol, S. Dasu, L. Dodd, S. Duric, B. Gomber, M. Grothe, M. Herndon, A. Hervé, P. Klabbbers, A. Lanaro, A. Levine, K. Long, R. Loveless, T. Perry, G.A. Pierro, G. Polese, T. Ruggles, A. Savin, N. Smith, W.H. Smith, D. Taylor, N. Woods

*University of Wisconsin - Madison, Madison, WI, USA*

<sup>†</sup> Deceased.

<sup>1</sup> Also at Vienna University of Technology, Vienna, Austria.

<sup>2</sup> Also at State Key Laboratory of Nuclear Physics and Technology, Peking University, Beijing, China.

<sup>3</sup> Also at Institut Pluridisciplinaire Hubert Curien (IPHC), Université de Strasbourg, CNRS/IN2P3, Strasbourg, France.

<sup>4</sup> Also at Universidade Estadual de Campinas, Campinas, Brazil.

<sup>5</sup> Also at Universidade Federal de Pelotas, Pelotas, Brazil.

<sup>6</sup> Also at Université Libre de Bruxelles, Bruxelles, Belgium.

<sup>7</sup> Also at Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron, Hamburg, Germany.

<sup>8</sup> Also at Joint Institute for Nuclear Research, Dubna, Russia.

<sup>9</sup> Now at Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt.

<sup>10</sup> Also at Fayoum University, El-Fayoum, Egypt.

<sup>11</sup> Now at British University in Egypt, Cairo, Egypt.

<sup>12</sup> Now at Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt.

<sup>13</sup> Also at Université de Haute Alsace, Mulhouse, France.

<sup>14</sup> Also at Skobeltsyn Institute of Nuclear Physics, Lomonosov Moscow State University, Moscow, Russia.

<sup>15</sup> Also at Ilia State University, Tbilisi, Georgia.

<sup>16</sup> Also at CERN, European Organization for Nuclear Research, Geneva, Switzerland.

<sup>17</sup> Also at RWTH Aachen University, III. Physikalisches Institut A, Aachen, Germany.

<sup>18</sup> Also at University of Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany.

<sup>19</sup> Also at Brandenburg University of Technology, Cottbus, Germany.

<sup>20</sup> Also at Institute of Nuclear Research ATOMKI, Debrecen, Hungary.

<sup>21</sup> Also at MTA-ELTE Lendület CMS Particle and Nuclear Physics Group, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary.

<sup>22</sup> Also at Institute of Physics, University of Debrecen, Debrecen, Hungary.

<sup>23</sup> Also at Indian Institute of Technology Bhubaneswar, Bhubaneswar, India.

<sup>24</sup> Also at University of Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, India.

<sup>25</sup> Also at Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Bhopal, India.

<sup>26</sup> Also at Institute of Physics, Bhubaneswar, India.

<sup>27</sup> Also at University of Ruhuna, Matara, Sri Lanka.

<sup>28</sup> Also at Isfahan University of Technology, Isfahan, Iran.

<sup>29</sup> Also at Yazd University, Yazd, Iran.

<sup>30</sup> Also at Plasma Physics Research Center, Science and Research Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran.

- <sup>31</sup> Also at Università degli Studi di Siena, Siena, Italy.
- <sup>32</sup> Also at Laboratori Nazionali di Legnaro dell'INFN, Legnaro, Italy.
- <sup>33</sup> Also at Purdue University, West Lafayette, USA.
- <sup>34</sup> Also at International Islamic University of Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- <sup>35</sup> Also at Malaysian Nuclear Agency, MOSTI, Kajang, Malaysia.
- <sup>36</sup> Also at Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología, Mexico city, Mexico.
- <sup>37</sup> Also at Warsaw University of Technology, Institute of Electronic Systems, Warsaw, Poland.
- <sup>38</sup> Also at Institute for Nuclear Research, Moscow, Russia.
- <sup>39</sup> Now at National Research Nuclear University 'Moscow Engineering Physics Institute' (MEPhI), Moscow, Russia.
- <sup>40</sup> Also at St. Petersburg State Polytechnical University, St. Petersburg, Russia.
- <sup>41</sup> Also at University of Florida, Gainesville, USA.
- <sup>42</sup> Also at P.N. Lebedev Physical Institute, Moscow, Russia.
- <sup>43</sup> Also at Budker Institute of Nuclear Physics, Novosibirsk, Russia.
- <sup>44</sup> Also at Faculty of Physics, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia.
- <sup>45</sup> Also at INFN Sezione di Roma; Università di Roma, Roma, Italy.
- <sup>46</sup> Also at University of Belgrade, Faculty of Physics and Vinca Institute of Nuclear Sciences, Belgrade, Serbia.
- <sup>47</sup> Also at Scuola Normale e Sezione dell'INFN, Pisa, Italy.
- <sup>48</sup> Also at National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Athens, Greece.
- <sup>49</sup> Also at Riga Technical University, Riga, Latvia.
- <sup>50</sup> Also at Institute for Theoretical and Experimental Physics, Moscow, Russia.
- <sup>51</sup> Also at Albert Einstein Center for Fundamental Physics, Bern, Switzerland.
- <sup>52</sup> Also at Gaziosmanpasa University, Tokat, Turkey.
- <sup>53</sup> Also at Adiyaman University, Adiyaman, Turkey.
- <sup>54</sup> Also at Istanbul Aydin University, Istanbul, Turkey.
- <sup>55</sup> Also at Mersin University, Mersin, Turkey.
- <sup>56</sup> Also at Cag University, Mersin, Turkey.
- <sup>57</sup> Also at Piri Reis University, Istanbul, Turkey.
- <sup>58</sup> Also at Ozyegin University, Istanbul, Turkey.
- <sup>59</sup> Also at Izmir Institute of Technology, Izmir, Turkey.
- <sup>60</sup> Also at Marmara University, Istanbul, Turkey.
- <sup>61</sup> Also at Kafkas University, Kars, Turkey.
- <sup>62</sup> Also at Istanbul Bilgi University, Istanbul, Turkey.
- <sup>63</sup> Also at Yildiz Technical University, Istanbul, Turkey.
- <sup>64</sup> Also at Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey.
- <sup>65</sup> Also at Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Didcot, United Kingdom.
- <sup>66</sup> Also at School of Physics and Astronomy, University of Southampton, Southampton, United Kingdom.
- <sup>67</sup> Also at Instituto de Astrofísica de Canarias, La Laguna, Spain.
- <sup>68</sup> Also at Utah Valley University, Orem, USA.
- <sup>69</sup> Also at Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne, USA.
- <sup>70</sup> Also at Erzincan University, Erzincan, Turkey.
- <sup>71</sup> Also at Mimar Sinan University, Istanbul, Istanbul, Turkey.
- <sup>72</sup> Also at Texas A&M University at Qatar, Doha, Qatar.
- <sup>73</sup> Also at Kyungpook National University, Daegu, Korea.